

null  
Diana T Fritz 03/15/2007 02:47:13 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

Cable  
Text:

UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS  
TELEGRAM

April 21, 2004

To: No Action Addressee  
Action: Unknown  
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 1255 - UNKNOWN)  
TAGS: PREL, EAID  
Captions: None  
Subject: UAE RESPONSE TO GREATER MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE  
Ref: None

---

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 01255

SIPDIS  
CXABU:  
ACTION: DCM  
INFO: POL AMB

DISSEMINATION: DCM  
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: AMB:MWAHBA  
DRAFTED: POL:SRADDANT  
CLEARED: A/DCM:HOWINDECKER

VZCZCADI190  
OO RUEHC RUEHDI RUEHZM  
DE RUEHAD #1255 1121400  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 211400Z APR 04  
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4067  
INFO RUEHDI/AMCONSUL DUBAI 3953  
RUEHZM/GCC COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 001255

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [EAID](#) [KMPI](#) [TC](#)  
SUBJECT: UAE RESPONSE TO GREATER MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE  
REF: A) STATE 86312 B) ABU DHABI 923 C) ABU DHABI 906

¶1. Per ref. A action request, post has forwarded the short papers outlining the GME proposals and cover letter to appropriate host country officials for their review. Post will provide UAEG responses to the proposals as they become available.

¶2. During the March 21 Strategic Partnership meetings (see refs B and C), A/S Burns discussed the GME with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Shaykh Khalifa bin Zayed (KbZ) and Information and Culture Minister Shaykh Abdullah bin Zayed (AbZ).

¶3. KbZ stated his disappointment that the GME concept was exploited by some who accused the U.S. of trying to impose reform on the region. He agreed that each country should set its own priorities, and said that the UAE would welcome recommendations for reform once shown how it would benefit this society. He agreed with Burns' recommendations for

educational reforms in the UAE to promote greater economic opportunities.

¶4. During the Strategic Partnership discussions, AbZ acknowledged that the region is in need of reform, but changes would not happen overnight. He was pleased with Burns' assurances that the U.S. has no intention of trying to impose reform initiatives on Arab states, rather, it would respond to calls from within the region for change.

WAHBA